

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190580

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FOR TODMAN FROM STEDMAN (DELIVER AT 8:00 A.M.)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT:DAILY ARA SUMMARY - AUGUST 11

1. AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON A PANAMA CANAL TREATY HAS OF COURSE BEEN OUR MAJOR PREOCCUPATION LAST NIGHT AND TODAY. THE U.S. AND PANAMANIAN NEGOTIATING TEAMS ANNOUNCED THE AGREEMENT IN SEPARATE STATEMENTS AT 7:30 P.M. EDT IN PANAMA. TEXT OF THE U.S. STATEMENT READ BY AMBASSADOR BUNKER WAS SENT TO SANTIAGO AND OTHER ARA POSTS IN STATE 189660.

2. BUNKER, LINOWITZ, AND DOLVIN GAVE A PRESS BACKGROUNDER AT 9:00 P.M. A LARGE NUMBER OF THE QUESTIONS DEALT WITH
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FUTURE U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE CANAL ZONE. DOLVIN STRESSED THAT THE JCS WERE CONFIDENT OF THEIR ABILITY TO DEFEND THE CANAL UNDER THE NEW TREATY. TWO STAFFERS FROM THE U.S. NEGOTIATING TEAM VISITED THE CANAL ZONE DURING THE EVENING TO BRIEF U.S. CANAL EMPLOYEES ON THE AGREEMENT.

3. A SUMMARY OF CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE AGREEMENT IS BEING SENT TO YOU BY SEPTTEL.

4. THE U.S. NEGOTIATING TEAM ARRIVED IN WASHINGTON TODAY AND PROCEEDED IMMEDIATELY TO WHITE HOUSE TO BRIEF THE PRESIDENT.

5. FORTY SENATORS AND PRINCIPAL HOUSE LEADERS WERE NOTIFIED BY TELEPHONE OF THE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE DURING THE EVENING OF AUGUST 10. MOST EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE TIMELY NOTIFICATION AND FOR THE BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE CONTENTS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT THAT WAS PROVIDED TO THEM. PARTICIPATING IN THE PHONE CALLS TO CONGRESSMEN WERE THE PRESIDENT, THE ACTING SECRETARY AND MEMBERS OF THE STATE AND WHITE HOUSE CONGRESSIONAL LIAISON STAFFS.

6. THE FIRST REACTION IN THE U.S. PRESS TO LAST NIGHT'S ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN AS GOOD AS WE COULD HAVE EXPECTED.

7. TODAY, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM A BRAZILIAN CORRESPONDENT ON THE URUGUAYAN ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTIONS FOR 1981, THE DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN SAID; QUOTE WE ARE ENCOURAGED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY HAS GIVEN PUBLIC CONFIRMATION TO A POLICY ANNOUNCED LAST YEAR TO HOLD NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN 1981. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT WILL LEAD TO THE CREATION OF AN ATMOSPHERE OF CONFIDENTIAL

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SPHERE WITHIN WHICH OTHER PROBLEMS, PARTICULARLY THOSE RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS CAN BE APPROACHED IN A POSITIVE MANNER. ALTHOUGH THE PROCESS LEADING TO ELECTIONS IS ONLY IN ITS INFANTILE STAGE, WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE DAY WHEN URUGUAY RETURNS TO ITS ILLUSTRIOUS AND INTERNATIONALLY RESPECTED DEMOCRATIC TRADITION OF POLITICAL AND INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM. UNQUOTE.

8. THIS IS ESSENTIALLY THE TEXT AMBASSADOR PEZZULLO REQUESTED (AND WE APPROVED) FOR HIS STATEMENT TO THE PRESIDENT.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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